



Gerald Fischman



Rob Hiaasen



John McNamara



Rebecca Smith



Wendi Winters

Attack in Annapolis

Gunman kills five staff members in office of The Capital



JOSHUA MCKERROW/BALTIMORE SUN MEDIA GROUP

Police respond to a mass shooting at The Capital Newspaper in Annapolis that left five dead.

Suspect had long-standing grudge against newspaper, sources say

BY IAN DUNCAN AND
NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS
The Baltimore Sun

A Laurel man with a long-standing grudge against The Capital is being held as the suspect in the deadly shooting Thursday at the Annapolis newspaper, according to law enforcement sources.

Police and federal agents gathered late Thursday outside the address of 38-year-old Jarrod W. Ramos. Rich McLaughlin, chief of the Laurel police department, said his officers were there as part of the investigation into the shooting at the newspaper, and other sources identified Ramos as the suspect.

In 2012, Ramos filed a defamation lawsuit against the paper and a columnist over a July 2011 article that covered a criminal harassment charge against him.

He brought the suit against then-columnist Eric Hartley, naming Capital Gazette Communications and Thomas Marquardt, the paper's former editor and publisher, as defendants.

A Twitter page in Ramos' name on Thursday featured Hartley's picture as its avatar, and a banner image included photographs of Marquardt and The Capital's former owner, Philip Merrill.

The page's bio read: "Dear reader: I created this page to See **SUSPECT**, page 6

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Employees hid under desks as gunman fired shotgun blasts

BY KEVIN RECTOR AND
NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS
The Baltimore Sun

A gunman blasted his way into the Capital Gazette newsroom in Annapolis with a shotgun Thursday afternoon, killing five people, authorities said.

Journalists dived under their desks and pleaded for help on social media. One reporter described the scene as a "war zone." A photographer said he jumped over a dead colleague and fled for his life.

The victims were identified as Rob Hiaasen, 59, a former feature writer for The Baltimore Sun who joined the Capital Gazette in 2010

as an assistant editor and columnist; Wendi Winters, 65, a community correspondent who headed special publications; Gerald Fischman, 61, the editorial page editor; John McNamara, 56, a staff writer who had covered high school, college and professional sports for decades; and Rebecca Smith, 34, a sales assistant hired in November.

Two others were injured in the attack that began about 2:40 p.m. at the Capital Gazette offices at 888 Bestgate Road in Annapolis.

Police took a suspect into custody soon after the shootings. He was identified as Jarrod W. Ramos, a 38-year-old Laurel man See **SHOOTING**, page 4